

In the election of 1938 Z. S. Smith jr was elected to the County Court over his Republican opponent by a vote of 2929 to 2110, June McElwee was re-elected to the House Of Delegates from Pocahontas over his Republican opponent Dr. L. C. McCutcheon 2813 to 2426. Moody Kincaide was elected County Clerk over Merritt Kellison by a vote of 3426 to 1771, Richard McNeel of Millpoint having been appointed by the court to fill out the unexpired term of Kerth Nottingham resigned Clerk of The Circuit Court failed to run for the next term but Grady K. Moore was elected over D. C. Adkison by a vote of 2980 to 2330.

About 1910 to 15 after all the virgin timber had been cut on our vast timbered areas numerous forest fires broke out burning over thousands of acres of this cut over land far back in the mountains the smoke being so dense it was crowded in by low humidity to our towns and villages until it caused visibility to be very poor and for many miles away the aroma of burning leaves was ~~xxxx~~ stifling, these fires had to be put out at the expense of the county so about this time thousands of dollars were paid out by our county court to men of the county for fighting fire, this was all done by fire wardens, who went about over the county warning men out to fight fires under their supervision or that of their assistants.

Information. County Court Records from 1932 to 40 Marlinton. W. Va.

W. Va. Blue Books from 1935 to 39.



West Virginia Writers' Project  
RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Subject County Government. Date 3/6/42  
Research Worker Samuel G. Smith Date Research Taken 3/2,3,4,5/42  
Typist Samuel G. Smith Date Typed 3/6/42  
Source Court Records. Marlinton. W. Va. Date Filed \_\_\_\_\_  
W. Va. Blue Books 39-40  
Jay Buckley. Buckeye. W. Va.





County Government. Samuel G. Smith. Hillsboro. W. Va. Pocahontas Co. # I.

The first settlers that settled on the western side of the Allegheny Mountains took up large tracts of land, especially along the Greenbrier River and other water courses in what later became Pocahontas County. Their taxes were very little but at that time money in any amount was hard to raise. One of these settlers and large land owners was John B. Buckleys grandfather who had 17,000 acres of land between Marlinton and Violet laying on both sides of the Greenbrier taking in the Buckley Mountains for which this chain of mountains was named, on this large tract the late John Buckley the pioneer paid 0.75 on this entire tract for one year, the taxes were payable at Staunton Virginia, thus this long trip to pay their taxes so you can easily see why a new county was formed and our county government brought closer home to the inhabitants of the upper portion of the Greenbrier Valley. Back about that time some of the Kellisons owned 350 acres near Violet and the owner said he would have to sell off part of his land because he could not pay the taxes, which were only 0.75 for the entire tract, all of which was paid at Staunton Virginia, the money was hard to get and the trip to Staunton was long and tiresome, all of this and more led to the formation of Pocahontas County in 1821 as this section was getting very little if any benefits from the taxes they paid, this is by way of comparison of our taxes of today, but we do get protection, good roads, free and High Schools that they did not enjoy at that



County Government. Samuel G. Smith. Hillsboro. W. Va. Pocahontas Co. # 2.  
time and it is very doubtful if this section would have advanced as  
it has, if it had not formed a separate county functioning within its  
self.

Pocahontas is and has long classed as an advanced education-  
al county having had one of the first High Schools as it would be ter-  
med today the Old Academy at Hillsboro and one at Greenbank serving the  
people of both the upper and lower end of the county until today Poca-  
hontas County has 3 accredited High Schools with 28 teachers, these High  
Schools are The Little Levels District High located at Hillsboro, Edray  
District High at Marlinton and Greenbank High School at Greenbank, besides  
our 60 elementary schools of these 11 are Graded Schools with more than  
one room and ~~inixixixgxxx~~ we find 6 colored or Negro schools scattered  
about over the county where our colored population is the greatest. These  
63 schools employ 136 teachers 28 employed by the High Schools while the  
remainder of 108 are employed for our elementary schools, this is less  
schools and less teachers than was used in the county up until about 1933  
when Consolidation was started, as we had around 80 schools up until that  
time that employed about 160 teachers.

Up until about 1933 it took about half of the taxes collected in  
Pocahontas County to run our schools and pay our teachers as the state